62. The filtering face mask of claim 61, wherein the opening in the valve cover is approximately parallel to the path traced by the second end of the flexible flap during its opening and closing.

63. The filtering face mask of claim 61, wherein the valve cover and its opening direct exhaled fluid flow downwards when the mask is worn on a person.

64. The filtering face mask of claim 63, wherein the valve cover has fluid-impermeable sidewalls.

65. The filtering face mask of claim 61, wherein the valve cover has a surface that holds the flexible flap against a flap-retaining surface on the valve seat.

66. The filtering face mask of claim 61, wherein the opening in the valve cover is at least the size of the orifice in the valve seat.

REMARKS

The title and abstract have been amended to better describe the invention that is being claimed in this case. The specification has been amended to correct a number of errors and to clarify the disclosure. The number 8.3 that has been inserted into page 20 can be easily derived from the information provided on that page and this is not new matter. Using the information pertaining to the orifice area and flow volume, a flow rate of 8.3 m/s can be calculated. Knowing this, a person of ordinary skill would have recognized that the decimal point was off one point (by a factor of 10) in the text. The specification also has been amended to insert language pertinent to the seal surface, now represented in FIG. 4 by numeral 31. Support for the limitation "seal surface" may be found, for example, at FIG. 4 and page 10, lines 4-12.

Claims 1-32 have been cancelled, and new claims 33-66 have been added. Thus, claims 33-66 are now pending in this case.

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Respectfully submitted,

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